

Youth Alcohol Laws

Choose Not to Drink

If you choose to...

Try to Buy Alcohol (Section 25658.5 of the Business & Professions Code)

- Maximum \$250 fine and/or 24-32 hours of community service work
*Second or subsequent arrest increases fines and community service hours
- A one year suspension of your driver license. If you don't have your driver license yet, you'll have to wait an extra year to get one.

This Section of law pertains to the attempt to purchase alcohol. Even if the employee turns you down, you have violated this law and can suffer the above punishments. In this case, it does hurt to try...

Purchase Alcohol or Consume Alcohol in an On-sale Business (i.e. restaurant, bar, etc.) (Section 25658(b) of the Business & Professions Code)

- Minimum \$250 fine and/or 24-32 hours of community service work
*Second or subsequent arrest increases fines and community service hours
- A one year suspension of your driver license. If you don't have your driver license yet, you'll have to wait an extra year to get one.

Possess a Fake ID (Section 25661 of the Business & Professions Code)

- Minimum \$250 fine and/or 24-32 hours of community service work
*Second or subsequent arrest increases fines and community service hours
- A one year suspension of your driver license. If you don't have your driver license yet, you'll have to wait an extra year to get one.

A fake ID is an ID that is altered, counterfeit or belongs to another person.

Possess Alcohol in Public (Section 25662(a) of the Business & Professions Code)

- Maximum \$250 fine or 24-32 hours of community service work
*Second or subsequent arrest increases fines and community service hours
- A one year suspension of your driver license. If you don't have your driver license yet, you'll have to wait an extra year to get one.

Enter a Bar (Section 25665 of the Business & Professions Code)

- Minimum \$200 fine

Anyone who chooses to...

Furnish (Give) Alcohol to a Person Under 21 Years Old (Section 25658(a) of the Business & Professions Code)

- Minimum \$1,000 fine and 24 hours of community service work

Section 25658(c) B.P. states that any person that furnishes alcohol to a minor (under 21) and that minor consumes the alcohol and causes great bodily injury or death to any person...shall be punished by imprisonment in a county jail for a minimum of 6 months, or a fine of \$1000, or a combination of both imprisonment and fine.

Possess Alcohol on Public School Grounds (Section 25608 of the Business & Professions Code)

- Maximum \$1,000 fine and/or imprisonment for up to 6 months in county jail

Public schools include elementary schools, secondary schools, technical schools, kindergarten schools and public 2 year colleges. See Section 25608 B.P. for exceptions to this law.

So...Choose Not to Drink!

Things to Tell Your Friends...

No, thanks.
I don't drink.
I'm driving.
What else do you have?
I'd let my parents down.
I'm on a diet.
I'm already having fun.

It's not worth it.
I could lose my license.
I have to be somewhere later.
I don't like how it makes me feel.
I have a big day tomorrow.
I'm in training.
It's not my style.

Just the Facts...

21 is the Law

The minimum legal drinking age in all 50 states is 21. The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration estimates that minimum drinking age laws have **saved 26,333 lives** since 1975. This estimate represents people of all ages who otherwise would have been involved in a fatal crash involving 18-20 year old alcohol-impaired drivers.

It's All the Same

One 12 ounce bottle of beer, one 4 ounce glass of wine and one shot of liquor all contain the same amount of alcohol. They all have the same effect on your body.

Zero Tolerance Law

California law states it is against the law to drive with a blood alcohol concentration (BAC) of .01% or higher if you are under 21 years of age. Your BAC is measured by a test given to you by a police officer. Under this law, on your first offense, your driving privilege will be suspended for one year if:

- your BAC is .01% or higher, or
- you refuse to take the preliminary alcohol screening (PAS) test, or
- you fail to complete the PAS test.

Nationwide, during the first full year of Zero Tolerance Law enforcement, nearly 2,000 drivers under the age of 21 had their licenses revoked due to state specific alcohol laws.

Zero Tolerance Laws are designed to keep our roads and inexperienced young drivers safe. The law is simple – if you are under 21, do not drink and drive.